

September 23, 2025

Mr. Gerald J. Shields Jr.



The Honorable Frank J. Bisignano
Commissioner of the U.S. Social Security Administration
Social Security Administration
Office of Public Inquiries and Communications Support
1100 West High Rise
6401 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, Maryland 21235

Dear Commissioner Bisignano:

I am writing to support the adoption of the U.S. Single Identification Number (USSIN) system for all U.S. citizens and residents. This would enhance our nation's security, efficiency, and unity, by standardizing identification numbers to build a more connected future under streamlined systems.

Example:

An old SSN of 123-45-6789 (which is the 9-digit number 123456789) would be updated by adding five zeros to reach 14 digits (12345678900000), followed by a two-digit checksum (CC) to complete the 16-digit TSIN. The formatted TSIN would appear as: 1234-5678-9000-00CC.

For specific details on the USSIN, please see the attached one-page Appendix A.

The USSIN card, featuring a barcode, digital passport photo, signature, magnetic strip, smart chip, a unique 16-digit USSIN number, will unify identification across governmental documents, visas, and benefits, such as seamless control over internal movements, unified tax collection strengthening the public treasury, reduced identity theft, swift casualty identification during crises, accurate censuses, establishing parentage for child support, and enhanced law enforcement against criminals and non-citizens. By replacing Social Security numbers, it eliminates reuse issues, while having a check digit will drive down costs and improve certainty.

While costs include issuing USSIN to all, updating agencies like SSN, INS, and DMV with computer code, and addressing privacy concerns, these are investments in a resilient future. Let us move forward with boldness and adopt the USSIN to secure our nation. With this, your leadership will leave a lasting legacy of strength. I hope you to champion this vital initiative to improve immigration and citizenship.

My best regards,



Mr. Gerald J. Shields Jr.

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Appendix A: Transition from Social Security Numbers (SSN) to U.S. Single Identification Numbers (USSIN)

This appendix provides a clear and straightforward example of how existing U.S. Social Security Numbers (SSNs) can be seamlessly transitioned to the new 16-digit U.S. Single Identification Number (USSIN) format. By padding the original 9-digit SSN with zeros at the end and incorporating a two-digit checksum for enhanced security and verification, this process ensures continuity while boosting accuracy and reliability. This innovative update eliminates the need to reissue previously used numbers, fostering a more efficient and trustworthy system for all.

Example:

An old SSN of 123-45-6789 (which is the 9-digit number 123456789) would be updated by adding five zeros to reach 14 digits (12345678900000), followed by a two-digit checksum (CC) to complete the 16-digit USSIN.

The formatted USSIN would appear as: 1234-5678-9000-00CC

Here, "CC" represents the placeholder for the calculated two-digit checksum, which can be generated using a standard algorithm (e.g., Luhn or similar) to verify the integrity of the number. This simple yet powerful method preserves historical data while embracing future-proof security—empowering citizens with confidence in their identification.

This would be easy to remember as it is four groups of four numbers.